

The State of New Hampshire

Department of Environmental Services



Michael P. Nolin Commissioner

February 28, 2006

LETTER OF DEFICIENCY #WSEB 06-035 Certified Mail #7099 3400 0003 6156 5385

James Vecchiarelli Chandler Terrace Condo Association PO Box 848 Plaistow, NH 03865

Subject: Plaistow - Public Water System: Chandler Terrace Condo Assoc. (EPA #1932190)

Dear Mr. Vecchiarelli:

The records of the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) show that Chandler Terrace Condo Association is classified as a public water system (PWS), as defined by RSA 485:1-a. A PWS is defined as any water system supplying 15 or more services, or 25 or more people for 60 or more days per year. As such, the water system owner is required to submit samples according to the system's established Master Sampling Schedule to the State laboratory or a State-certified laboratory in compliance with NH Administrative Rules Env-Ws 321 through 330.

The Federal Environmental Protection Agency promulgated new radionuclide rules governing the acceptable levels of radionuclides in the Nation's community public water systems. Consequently, in 2004, DES adopted new rules in conformance with the Federal requirements. New maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) were established and additional requirements instituted for the regulated radionuclides. A new Uranium standard became effective in January 2004, and compliance was to be determined based on the average of four quarterly, seasonal samples or the running annual average (RAA). The RAA is defined as the average of sample results collected over the last 12 month period. As a result of the new regulatory requirements, DES calculated the RAA for your system and determined that the following violation(s) has occurred.

SITE: 501 - Tap in Basement/After Treatment/001

MCL (units)	Running Annual Average	Violation Y/N
15 pCi/L	18 pCi/L	YES
30 ug/L	3.7 ug/L	no
5 pCi/L	5 pCi/L	no
	15 pCi/L 30 ug/L	Average 15 pCi/L 18 pCi/L 30 ug/L 3.7 ug/L

Based on the RAA, as outlined above, your schedule has been modified as follows:

Contaminant	FRDS Code	Next Sampling Quarter/Year
Compliance gross alpha	4000	Quarterly
Uranium	4006	Q1/2013
Radium 226 & 228	4010	Q3/Annually

P.O. Box 95, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095

Telephone: (603) 271-3503 • Fax: (603) 271-5171 • TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

DES Web site: www.des.nh.gov

DES believes the MCL violation(s) can be corrected and future violations prevented by taking the following actions:

- 1. As soon as possible, but no later than April 3, 2006, provide public notice of the violation(s) following the guidelines on the enclosed public notice handout. Continue providing public notice each calendar quarter for as long as the violation occurs; and
- 2. Within 10 days of providing notice, submit proof of public notice to this office following the guidelines on the enclosed public notice handout; and
- 3. **By April 3, 2006**, retain the services of a qualified consultant to address the water quality violation(s) and notify DES, in writing, of the name of the consultant hired. The consultant should review all existing water quality data and all feasible options prior to making recommendations to the owner for correcting the MCL violation(s). Guidance on options to correct the MCL violation and the recommended contents of a consultant's report are enclosed; and
- 4. By June 5, 2006, submit to DES the consultant's report, which shall contain the consultant's evaluation of feasible options, cost estimates, identification and justification of which option the owner has selected to implement, along with a timeline and final correction date to resolve the MCL violation(s). A maintenance schedule must be included if treatment is proposed. DES will approve the consultant's report, in writing, and specify the next submission deadline. A consultant's report determined to lack comprehensiveness will not be approved; and
- 5. By the submission date established by DES in the above-mentioned approval letter, submit to DES all engineering/technical documents for the design of the selected option. DES must review and approve, in writing, any engineering/technical documents prior to the commencement of any work on the system. Note that engineering plans for systems serving more than 50 service connections or 20,000 gpd must be stamped by a professional engineer; and
- 6. **By the DES-approved correction date**, take the corrective action as approved by DES. Notify DES in writing upon completion of the action(s) taken; and
- 7. Continue to sample in accordance with your Master Sampling Schedule (copy enclosed), which includes quarterly sampling for compliance gross alpha.

In the event compliance is not achieved within this period, DES may initiate formal action against you, including issuing an order requiring the deficiencies to be corrected, initiating an administrative fine proceeding, and/or referring the matter to the NH Department of Justice for imposition of appropriate penalties.

All information as requested above should be addressed as follows or faxed to (603) 271-5171:

Selina J. Makofsky, P.G.
Department of Environmental Services
Water Supply Engineering Bureau
29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95
Concord, NH 03302-0095

Further review of your system's water quality indicates that your system has also had a history of Iron and Manganese detections above the secondary maximum contaminant levels (SMCL) established for these compounds. These are aesthetically based standards; as such compliance with the SMCL is required should consumer complaints arise.

For your information, fact sheets on Mineral Radioactivity are available at: http://www.des.state.nh.us/ws.htm. These include general information, health effects and removal options. Also enclosed is a summary of the expected content of consultant report submittals for your review. Please be reminded that proposed treatment alternatives should take into consideration all water quality parameters as well as current and future quantity needs.

In addition to your operator, assistance may be available to you through a variety of sources. DES staff member Bernie Lucey, P.E., may be able to answer questions concerning treatment for the aforementioned contaminant(s). He may be reached at (603) 271-2952 or via email at blucey@des.state.nh.us. Also, financial, managerial and technical assistance is available through either of two government funded technical assistance providers. These are Granite State Rural Water Association ((603) 753-4055) and RCAP Solutions, Inc. (1-800-488-1969). Health related questions may be directed to Dave Gordon of the DES Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health whose number is (603) 271-4608. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Selina J. Makofsky, P.G., at (603) 271-4109 or by email at smakofsky@des.state.nh.us.

Sincerely,

Sarah Pillsbury, P.G., Administrator Water Supply Engineering Bureau

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Encl: Master Sampling Schedule

Public Notice Form

Report submittal information sheets

cc w/ encl(s): Christian Kofer, Primary Operator

Letter of Deficiency #WSEB 06-035 Chandler Terrace Condo Association Page 4 of 4

cc: Gretchen R. Hamel, DES Legal Unit Administrator

Plaistow Health Officer

EPA, Region 1

File

ec: Bernie Lucey, P.E., DES

Cynthia Klevens, P.E., DES Dave Gordon, DES BEOH Jack Shields, GSRWA

Robert Morancy, RCAP Solutions, Inc.